

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:  
receiving a generic-recipient message at a network hub, wherein the generic-recipient message comprises a message sent to a group or community address;  
determining predefined attributes of the message, wherein the predefined attributes comprise one or more of a sender of the message, subject of the message, or content of the message;  
determining a type of the message;  
determining one or more recipients for the message based at least in part upon the determined type and further based at least in part upon the predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes of the message with stored information related to potential recipients; and  
dispatching the message to the one or more determined recipients.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein receiving a generic-recipient message at a network hub further comprises receiving a generic-recipient message, chosen from the group of messages consisting of a Short Message Service (SMS) message, a Multimedia Message Service (MMS) message, electronic mail (email) message and voice message; and wherein determining a type of the message comprises determining whether the message comprises a Short Message Service (SMS) message, a Multimedia Message Service (MMS) message, electronic mail (email) message, or voice message.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein receiving a generic-recipient message at a network hub further comprises receiving a message at a wireless network hub.

4-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein dispatching the

message to one or more recipients further comprises assigning recipient Radio Frequency (RF) identifiers to the message, wherein a recipient Radio Frequency identifier corresponds to a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the message.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein dispatching the message to one or more recipients further comprises displaying the message on a display.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 7, wherein displaying the message on a display further comprises displaying the message on a display associated with a radio frequency (RF) identifier.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein dispatching the message to one or more recipients further comprises transmitting the message to one or more recipients via a communication medium chosen from the group of communication medium consisting of short-range wireless communication, Internet communication, SMS communication, and MMS communication.

10. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:  
receiving a generic-recipient message at a network hub, wherein the generic-recipient message comprises a message sent to a group or community address;  
determining predefined attributes of the message, wherein the predefined attributes comprise one or more of a sender of the message, subject of the message, or content of the message;  
determining a type of the message;  
determining whether the message has priority based at least in part on the determined type and on the predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes of the message with pre-stored priority information; and  
prioritizing the message if a determination is made that the message has priority.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 10, wherein determining whether the message has priority based on the predefined attributes further comprises determining whether the message has display priority based on the predefined attributes.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11, wherein prioritizing the message if a determination is made that the message has priority further comprises prioritizing the display of the message if a determination is made that the message has display priority.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 12, wherein prioritizing the display of the message if a determination is made that the message has display priority further comprises the step of displaying the message in a prominent position on a display associated with the hub.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 10, wherein determining whether the message has priority based on the predefined attributes further comprises determining whether the message has dispatch priority based on the predefined attributes.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 13, wherein prioritizing the message if a determination is made that the message has priority further comprises prioritizing the dispatch of the message if a determination is made that the message has dispatch priority.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein prioritizing the dispatch of the message if a determination is made that the message has dispatch priority further comprises prioritizing the communication medium used to dispatch the message if a determination is made that the message has communication medium dispatch priority.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein prioritizing the dispatch of the message if a determination is made that the message has dispatch priority

further comprises prioritizing the time of dispatch of the message if a determination is made that the message has time dispatch priority.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein receiving a generic-recipient message at a network hub further comprises receiving a generic-recipient message, chosen from the group of messages consisting of a Short Message Service (SMS) message, a Multimedia Message Service (MMS) message, electronic mail (email) message and voice message; and wherein determining a type of the message comprises determining whether the message comprises a Short Message Service (SMS) message, a Multimedia Message Service (MMS) message, electronic mail (email) message, or voice message.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 10, wherein receiving a generic-recipient message at a network hub further comprises receiving a generic-recipient message at a wireless network hub.

20-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising a processor device having a processing unit configured to cause the apparatus to:

receive a generic-recipient message from one or more communication networks wherein the generic-recipient message comprises a message sent to a group or community address;

determine predefined attributes of the generic-recipient message, wherein the predefined attributes comprise one or more of a sender of the message, subject of the message, or content of the message; and

determine a type of the message;

determine one or more recipients for the message based at least in part upon the determined type and further based at least in part upon the predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes of the message with stored information related to

potential recipients; and

dispatch the message to the one or more determined recipients based at least in part upon the determined type of the message.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~device~~ apparatus of Claim 22, wherein the ~~processor processing unit~~ is further configured to cause the apparatus to dispatch ~~for dispatching~~ the message[[s]] by dispatching the message to one or more determined recipients via lower power Radio Frequency (RF).

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~device~~ apparatus of Claim 22, wherein the ~~processor processing unit~~ is further configured to cause the apparatus to dispatch the message by dispatching the message to one or more determined recipients via a digital cellular network.

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~device~~ apparatus of Claim 22, wherein the ~~processor processing unit~~ is further configured to cause the apparatus to dispatch the message by dispatching the message to one or more determined recipients via a communication network.

26. (Currently Amended) The ~~device~~ apparatus of Claim 25, wherein the communication network is chosen from the group consisting of the Internet, a Short Message Service (SMS) network, a Multimedia Message Service (MMS) network and a telephony network.

27. (Currently Amended) The ~~device~~ apparatus of Claim 22, further comprising a display associated with the ~~device~~ apparatus that displays a message associated with a message identifier.

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~device~~ apparatus of Claim 27, wherein the message identifier is further defined as a Radio Frequency (RF) identifier, wherein the

Radio Frequency identifier corresponds to a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the message.

29. (Currently Amended) An ~~device~~ apparatus comprising a processor ~~processing unit~~ configured to cause the apparatus to:

receive generic-recipient messages from one or more communication networks wherein the generic-recipient message comprises a message sent to a group or community address;

determine predefined attributes of received generic-recipient messages, wherein the predefined attributes comprise one or more of a sender of the message, subject of the message, or content of the message;

determine a type of the messages; and

determine whether the message has priority based at least in part on the determined type and on the predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes of the message with pre-stored priority information.

30. (Currently Amended) The ~~device~~ apparatus of Claim 29, wherein the processor ~~processing unit~~ is further configured to determine predefined attributes of received generic-recipient messages and compare the predefined attributes to pre-stored display priority information to determine if the received messages require display prioritization.

31. (Currently Amended) The ~~device~~ apparatus of Claim 30, further comprising a display associated with the ~~device~~ apparatus that displays message identifiers to one or more recipients.

32. (Currently Amended) The ~~device~~ apparatus of Claim 30, wherein the processor is further configured to provide for display prioritization to be chosen from the group consisting of displaying prioritized messages first in a list of messages, displaying

prioritized messages in a new viewable window and displaying prioritized messages in a highlighted form.

33. (Currently Amended) The ~~device~~ apparatus of Claim 29, wherein the processor is further configured to determine predefined attributes of received generic-recipient messages and compare the predefined attributes to pre-stored dispatch priority information to determine if the received messages require dispatch prioritization.

34. (Currently Amended) The ~~device~~ apparatus of Claim 33, wherein the processor is further configured to provide for dispatch prioritization to be chosen from the group consisting of prioritizing the time at which messages will be dispatched, prioritizing the communication medium used to dispatch messages and prioritizing the recipients of the dispatched messages.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Currently Amended) A computer program product ~~for automatically determining one or more recipients of a generic-recipient message wherein the generic-recipient message comprises a message sent to a group or community address, and dispatching the message to the one or more recipients within a digital communication network, the computer program product~~ comprising a computer readable storage medium having computer-readable program instructions embodied in the medium, the computer-readable program instructions comprising:

~~first~~ instructions for storing information related to potential message recipients;  
~~second~~ instructions for receiving a generic-recipient message at a network hub and determining predefined attributes associated with the generic-recipient message, wherein the generic-recipient message comprises a message sent to a group or community address, and wherein the predefined attributes comprise one or more of a sender of the message, subject of the message, or content of the message;  
instructions for determining a type of the message; and

~~third~~ instructions for determining one or more recipients of the generic-recipient message based at least in part upon the determined type and further based at least in part upon the predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes associated with the generic-recipient message to the stored information related to potential message recipients; and

instructions for dispatching the message to the one or more determined recipients.

37. (Cancelled).

38. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of Claim 36, wherein the ~~second~~ instructions for receiving a generic-recipient message at a network hub and determining predefined attributes associated with the generic-recipient message further comprise[[s]] ~~second~~ instructions for receiving a generic-recipient message, chosen from the group of messages consisting of a Short Message Service (SMS) message, a Multimedia Message Service (MMS) message, electronic mail (email) message and voice message; and wherein the instructions for determining a type of the message include instructions for determining whether the message comprises a Short Message Service (SMS) message, a Multimedia Message Service (MMS) message, electronic mail (email) message, or voice message.

39. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of Claim 36, wherein the ~~second~~ instructions for receiving a generic-recipient message at a network hub and determining predefined attributes associated with the generic-recipient message further comprise[[s]] ~~second~~ instructions for receiving a generic-recipient message at a wireless network hub.

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of Claim ~~36~~ 37, wherein the ~~fourth~~ instructions for dispatching the message to one or more recipients



further comprise[[s]] instructions for assigning recipient Radio Frequency (RF) identifiers to the message, wherein a recipient Radio Frequency identifier corresponds to a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the message.

42. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of Claim 36 37, wherein the ~~fourth~~ instructions for dispatching the message to one or more recipients further comprises instructions for displaying the message on a display associated with the network hub.

43. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of Claim 42, wherein the ~~fourth~~ instructions for displaying the message on a display associated with the network hub further comprises ~~fourth~~ instructions for displaying the message, which is associated with a Radio Frequency (RF) identifier, on a display associated with the network hub, wherein a recipient Radio Frequency identifier corresponds to a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the message.

44. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of Claim 36 37, wherein the ~~step of~~ instructions for dispatching the message to one or more recipients further comprises instructions for transmitting the message to one or more recipients via a communication medium chosen from the group of communication medium consisting of short-range wireless communication, Internet communication, SMS communication, and MMS communication.

45. (Currently Amended) A computer program product ~~for prioritizing generic-recipient messages at a network hub, the computer program product~~ comprising a computer readable storage medium having computer-readable program instructions embodied in the medium, the computer-readable program instructions comprising:  
    ~~first~~ instructions for storing information related to message priority;  
    ~~second~~ instructions for receiving a generic-recipient message at a network hub

and determining predefined attributes associated with the generic-recipient message,  
wherein the generic-recipient message comprises a message sent to a group or  
community address, and wherein the predefined attributes comprise one or more of a  
sender of the message, subject of the message, or content of the message;

determining a type of the message; and

~~third~~ instructions for determining whether the generic-recipient message has  
priority based at least in part on the determined type and on the predefined attributes by  
comparing the predefined attributes associated with the generic-recipient message to the  
stored information related to message priority.

46. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of Claim 45,  
wherein the ~~first~~ instructions for storing information related to message priority further  
comprise[[s]] ~~first~~ instructions for storing information related to message display priority,  
and wherein the ~~third~~ instructions for determining whether the generic-recipient message  
has priority further comprise[[s]] ~~third~~ instructions for determining whether the generic-  
recipient message has display priority by comparing the predefined attributes associated  
with the generic-recipient message to the stored information related to message display  
priority.

47. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of Claim 45,  
wherein the ~~first~~-instructions for storing information related to message priority further  
comprise[[s]] ~~first~~ instructions for storing information related to message dispatch  
priority, and wherein the ~~third~~ instructions for determining whether the message has  
priority further comprise[[s]] ~~third~~ instructions for determining whether the message has  
dispatch priority by comparing the predefined attributes associated with the messages to  
the stored information related to message dispatch priority.

48. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of Claim 45,  
wherein the ~~second~~ instructions for receiving a generic-recipient message at a network  
hub and determining predefined attributes associated with the message further comprises

~~second~~ instructions for receiving a generic-recipient message, chosen from the group of messages consisting of a Short Message Service (SMS) message, a Multimedia Message Service (MMS) message, electronic mail (email) message and voice message, and wherein the instructions for determining a type of the message comprise instructions for determining whether the message comprises a Short Message Service (SMS) message, a Multimedia Message Service (MMS) message, an electronic mail (email) message, or a voice message.

49. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of Claim 45, wherein the ~~second~~ instructions for receiving a generic-recipient message at a network hub and determining predefined attributes associated with the message further comprise[[s]] ~~second~~ instructions for receiving a generic-recipient message at a wireless network hub.

50-51. (Cancelled)